

What you should know about

Government  
Publications

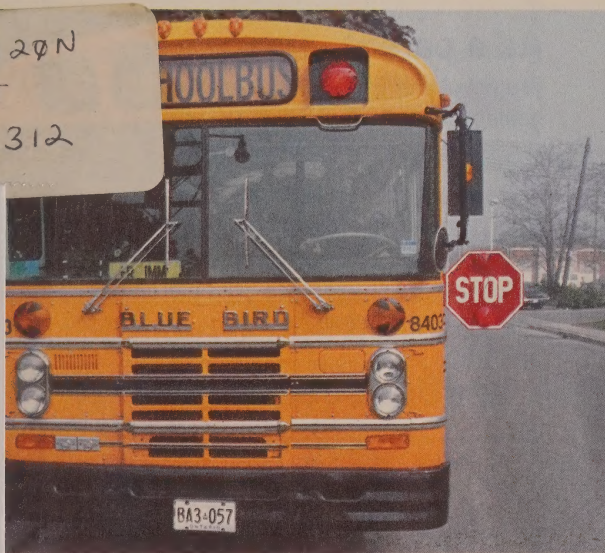
# ONTARIO'S SCHOOL BUS STOPPING LAW

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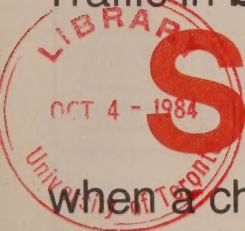


**Regardless  
of posted speed limit**

Traffic in **both** directions must

**STOP**

when a chrome-yellow  
school bus flashes red lights  
front and rear.



## As a motorist

you must drive with extra care whenever you see a school bus in front of you or coming towards you. Remember that if the bus flashes its red lights, traffic in both directions must stop.

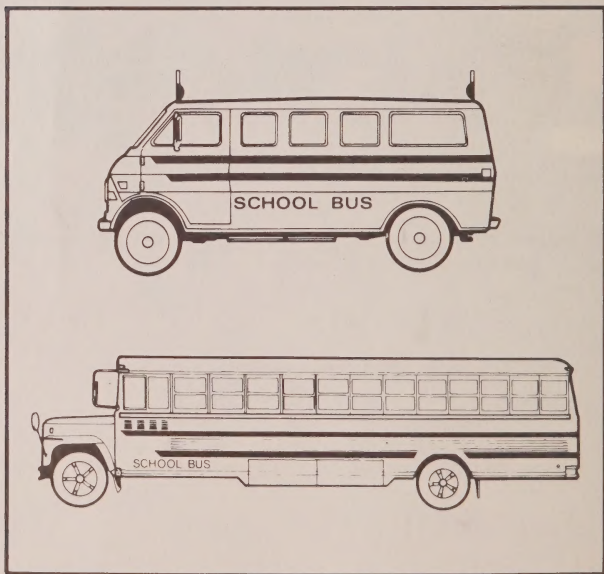
Conviction for failure to stop when required carries a fine of \$100 to \$500 for a first offence; for each subsequent offence, a fine of \$250 to \$1,000, or imprisonment for up to six months, or both and an assessment of 6 demerit points.

## As a parent

you should remind your children to be extra careful when getting on and off the school bus. Have them take a second look for traffic before crossing the road.

Also remind your children to follow the school bus safety rules learned at school. Encourage them to help the driver keep his attention on road safety. They can do this by behaving as quietly as possible and keeping seated until it is time to leave the bus.

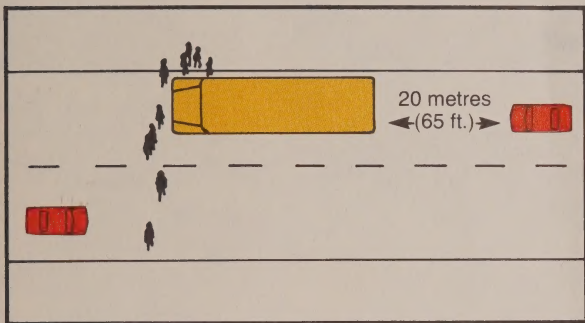
## SCHOOL BUSES CAN BE ANY SIZE



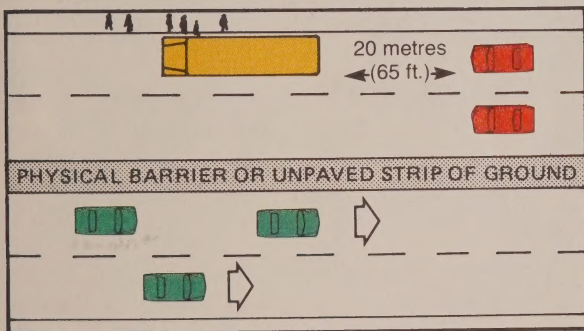
# School bus safety is e

# School bus stopping law

The law applies everywhere regardless of the posted speed limit — on highways, county roads, city, town or village streets. Motorists **meeting** a stopped school bus with red lights flashing must stop unless they are on a highway divided by a median strip. (see definition) Motorists **overtaking** a stopped school bus with red lights flashing on **any** highway, must always stop **at least 20 metres** before reaching the bus. In both cases, motorists may not proceed until the bus resumes motion, or the lights have stopped flashing.



**TWO-LANE HIGHWAY OR STREET**  
— cars in both directions must stop



**MULTI-LANE HIGHWAY WITH MEDIAN STRIP** — only cars behind must stop

## Median strip

Median strip means the portion of a highway constructed to separate traffic travelling in one direction from traffic travelling in the opposite direction. The median strip is a physical barrier, or an unpaved strip of ground.

**Everybody's responsibility**



# How do you know it's a school bus?



A School Bus is defined as:

**a chrome yellow\* bus that is used for the transportation of,**

- (i) children to or from school or church, or
- (ii) mentally retarded adults to or from a training centre,

that bears on the front and rear thereof the words "SCHOOL BUS" and on the rear thereof the words "DO NOT PASS WHEN SIGNALS FLASHING". No bus, other than a school bus, can be painted chrome yellow\*.

**No motor vehicle**, other than a school bus can bear the words "DO NOT PASS WHEN SIGNALS FLASHING" or "SCHOOL BUS".

\*Chrome yellow is similar to the colour of the bus on the cover of this pamphlet.



Ministry of  
Transportation and  
Communications

Hon. James Snow, Minister  
Harold Gilbert, Deputy Minister